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INTIMATE: INTegrating Ice core, MArine and TErrestrial records (60,000 to 8000 years ago)

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The main aim of the INTIMATE COST Action is to develop common protocols and methods to reconstruct abrupt and extreme climate change across the full range of European environments (ice, marine and terrestrial) over the period 60,000 to 8000 years ago, to better understand the mechanisms and impact of change, and thereby reduce the uncertainty of future prediction.
Past climate and environmental data provide critical tests of global and regional climate models. While there are a small number of high profile records, such as the Greenland ice cores, which are critical for informing on the dynamic nature of past climate change, it is at the scale of Europe and the North Atlantic that abrupt climate variability needs to be fully explored. It is crucial that independent records of abrupt climate change across Europe are generated and robustly compared to test for leads/lags in the climate system and the interaction between different climate forcing mechanisms. Doing so will critically underpin our ability to model future climate change and ecosystem response. The main objectives of this Action are to standardize methodologies across Europe; incorporate reconstructions within climate models; and facilitate interdisciplinary science collaborations, including early-stage and established scientists, to build European research capacity.
The COST action is comprises four working groups focussing on 1) Dating and chronological modelling; 2) Quantification of past climate; 3) Modelling mechanisms of past Climate change; and 4) Climate Impacts. For more information about the ES0907 action see the COST website http://www.cost.esf.org/, or contact one of the authors.